

The New Istanbul Grand Airport (IGA) Status – İrfan GÜNÜZ - 2nd Istanbul Hub Seminar presentation summary

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Mr İrfan Gündüz started his speech by stating that the Istanbul Grand Airport (IGA) is aimed to be opened in the beginning of 2018. He further stated the new airport project is conducted on a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis. The airport will be managed by the company for 25 years before it is transferred to another company in 2043. He thinks that IGA will fulfill both airlines's and ground handling company's as well as passengers' needs.

According to information that Mr. Gündüz provided, the project has started in 2013 however the construction of the first phase was commenced in 2015 due to financial reasons and will take 3 more years to be completed.

Mr Gündüz went on his speech by providing a few details about the new airport which is located on the North coast of European side of Istanbul. For example, the area of the project is 7,594 hectares with around 13 km length and 7 km depth which is several times larger than the busiest airports in the world such as Atlanta and London Heathrow. In the first phase, two runways will be constructed and the passenger terminal building will have a capacity of 90 million passengers per annum. After 16 months, the next phase will be initiated and a third runway will start operation. Construction of a fourth runway will also start following the opening of the third runway. According to Mr. Gündüz, the expected number of passengers is 80 millions per year, and when this is reached, the second passenger terminal will be constructed. The final phase of the airport covers the construction of the fifth and sixth runways. At this point, the airport will be able to handle more than 150 million passengers per year.

IGA will operate in one main building without any satellite buildings reducing the time needed for transfer passengers. IGA will be the new hub of Turkish Airlines who have a large number of transfer passengers, hence the new airport will have improved transfer capabilities to suit their operational needs. The carpark will have a capacity of 18,000. The airport will be connected to central Istanbul via three subway & train routes. Mr. Gündüz believes passenger experience is very important for them therefore they are doing everything to make the new airport as comfortable as possible.